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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/005,484	11/08/2001	Robert E. Thompson	W00512/70058 PCL	8415
23628	7590	02/26/2004	EXAMINER	
WOLF GREENFIELD & SACKS, PC FEDERAL RESERVE PLAZA 600 ATLANTIC AVENUE BOSTON, MA 02210-2211			RIVELL, JOHN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3753	

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary

Application No.

10/005,484

Applicant(s)

THOMPSON ET AL.

Examiner

John Rivell

Art Unit

3753

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) John Rivell. (3) _____.

(2) Mr. Aaron W. Moore. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 25 February 2004.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: Proposed amended claims.

Identification of prior art discussed: Schmidt et al (U.S. 3,476,440).

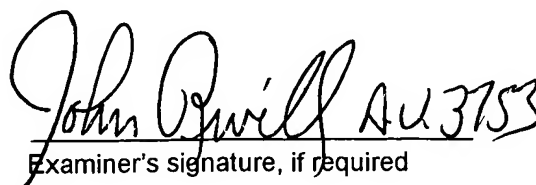
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicants requested discussion of proposed amendments. Examiner indicated that at least independent claims appeared to be met by current art of record to Schmidt et al. Applicant will consider and make appropriate formal response.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

**Date** Wednesday, February 25, 2004**Number of pages (including cover):** 8**F A X C O V E R****To** Examiner John Rivell
Art Unit 3753**Company** USPTO**Your File #** Ser. No. 10/005,484**Tel** 703-308-2599**Fax** 703-746-4601**From** Aaron W. Moore**Direct dial** (617) 395-7016**Our File #** W0512-5058ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS SENT: ☐ 1st Class Mail ☐ Overnight Mail ☐ Air Mail ☒ Not Sent**MESSAGE:**

Proposed claim amendments in 10/005,484 for discussion at 2:00 p.m. telephone interview.

A large, stylized handwritten word "DRAFT" is written across the center of the message box. To the left of the word, there are several horizontal wavy lines, possibly representing a signature or a scribble.

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Ser. No. 10/005,484 Proposed Claim Amendments

These proposed amendments are presented for discussion purposes only and are not a representation or admission concerning the patentability of any claim or subject matter.

1. **[CANCEL]** A media control valve, comprising:
 - a valve body having a media inlet and a media outlet;
 - a plunger positioned within the valve body;
 - a sleeve positioned within the valve body;
 - a media opening in the sleeve having a first portion proximate to the media outlet and a second portion distal to the media outlet, wherein the second portion is broader than the first portion;
 - a housing connected to the valve body;
 - a piston positioned within the housing and connected to the plunger; and
 - a base connected to the valve body in communication with the media outlet.
2. **[CANCEL]** The valve of claim 1, wherein the base comprises a unitary structure including a fluid passage and an attachment mechanism adapted to attach the base to the valve body.
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. **[CANCEL]** The valve of claim 1, wherein the piston comprises a contaminant isolation region.
7. **[CANCEL]** The valve of claim 6, wherein the piston is convex in the direction of the valve body.

8. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 1, further comprising at least one seal positioned between the plunger and the valve body adapted to resist the passage of one of media, fluid, contaminants, and combinations thereof between the valve body and the housing.
9. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 8, comprising three seals between the plunger and the valve body.
10. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 9, wherein the three seals are constructed as a unitary piece.
11. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises an exhaust chamber including a vent.
12. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 11, wherein the vent comprises a filter.
13. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 12, wherein the filter is adapted to filter particles greater than about 20 microns in diameter.
14. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 1, wherein the valve body and the housing comprise two distinct structures adapted to be joined together.
15. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 14, wherein the valve body and housing comprise a mating structure.
16. (canceled)
17. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 16, further comprising a spring within the housing and a spring retainer.
18. (canceled)

19. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 1, further comprising a valve seat.
20. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 19, wherein the valve seat is constructed of an elastomer.
21. [CANCEL] The valve of claim 1, further comprising means for providing a gentle seal.
22. [CANCEL] A valve, comprising:
a body having a media inlet and a media outlet;
a flow path within the body [having a substantially linear axis and] including the media inlet and the media outlet;
an opening in the body having a first portion proximate to the outlet and a second portion distal to the outlet, wherein the second portion is broader than the first portion;
a closing member positioned within the body so as to selectively cover the opening.
23. [AMEND] A media control valve, comprising:
a body having a media inlet and a media outlet;
a flow path within the body [having a substantially linear axis and] including the media inlet and the media outlet;
a closing member positioned within the body and constructed and arranged to provide all metering positions from a fully closed position to a fully open position.[:]
[a housing;
a piston within the housing, connected to the closing member and having a contaminant isolation region.]
24. [AMEND] A media control valve, comprising:
a valve body having a media inlet and a media outlet;
a plunger positioned within the valve body;
[a gentle seal positioned within the valve body;]

a sleeve positioned within the valve body;
a media opening in the sleeve;
a housing connected to the valve body;
a piston [having a contaminant isolation region] positioned within the housing and connected to the plunger; and
a base connected to the valve body in communication with the media outlet;
wherein the plunger, the piston, and the sleeve are constructed and arranged to provide all metering positions from a fully closed position to a fully open position.

25. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the base comprises a unitary structure including a fluid passage and an attachment mechanism adapted to attach the base to the valve body.

26. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the base comprises a fluid passage and a flow sleeve within the fluid passage.

27. [AMEND] The valve of claim 26, wherein the [flow] sleeve is comprised of a wear resistant material.

28. [AMEND] The valve of claim 26, wherein the [flow] sleeve is comprised of a chemically resistant material.

29. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the media opening comprises a first portion proximate to the media outlet and a second portion distal to the media outlet and wherein the second portion is broader than the first portion.

30. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the piston is convex in the direction of the valve body.

31. (original) The valve of claim 24, further comprising at least one seal between the plunger and the valve body adapted to resist the passage of one of media, fluid, contaminants, and combinations thereof between the valve body and the housing.
32. (original) The valve of claim 24, comprising three seals positioned between the plunger and the valve body.
33. (original) The valve of claim 32, wherein the three seals are constructed as a unitary piece.
34. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the housing comprises an exhaust chamber including a vent.
35. (original) The valve of claim 34, wherein the vent comprises a filter.
36. (original) The valve of claim 35, wherein the filter is adapted to filter particles greater than about 20 microns in diameter.
37. (original) The valve of claim 24, wherein the valve body and the housing comprise two distinct structures adapted to be joined together.
38. (original) The valve of claim 37, wherein the valve body and housing comprise a mating structure.
39. (original) The valve of claim 24, further comprising a metering indicator.
40. (original) The valve of claim 39, further comprising a spring within the housing and a spring retainer.
41. (original) The valve of claim 40, wherein the spring retainer includes a marking corresponding to the degree to which the valve is open.

42. (original) The valve of claim 24, further comprising a valve seat.
43. (original) The valve of claim 42, wherein the valve seat comprises an elastomer.
44. (original) The valve of claim 24, further comprising means for providing a gentle seal.
45. [AMEND] A media control system comprising:
a media vessel;
an air flow path;
a media flow path [having a substantially linear axis and] including a media inlet connected to the media vessel and a media outlet connected to the air flow path; and
a media control valve positioned on the media flow path; wherein
[the media control valve further comprises a gentle seal] the media control valve is constructed and arranged to provide all metering positions from a fully closed position to a fully open position.
46. (previously amended) The media control system of claim 45, wherein the media flow path axis is substantially perpendicular with respect to a surface upon which the media control system rests.
47. (previously amended) The media control valve of claim 45, wherein the media flow path axis is substantially perpendicular to an axis of the air flow path.
48. [CANCEL] A media control valve comprising:
a valve body comprising a media inlet and a media outlet;
a media flow path having a substantially linear axis and including the media inlet and the media outlet;
a gentle seal positioned within the valve body;
a sleeve positioned within the valve body; and
a media opening in the sleeve.

49. [CANCEL] The media control valve of claim 46, further comprising an elastomeric valve seat.